

Draft Minutes of the Mar 12, 2009 HP/FH Committee Meeting

Attendance

Present:

Ellen Kosmer (EK), Claude Tellier (CT), Nancy Gregg (NG) Chair Walter Wolnik (WW), Chris Hoffmann (CH) Recording Secretary, Flo Stern (FS), Roy Rosenblatt (RR) Staff

Absent:

Jean Haggerty (JH)

Others

Donna Crabtree

Actions:

Called to order at 9:12am

Minutes of 2/5/2009 Accepted with revisions EK/WW

Approved motion: The HP/FH committee will defer bringing an article to form a Municipal Housing Trust until the Fall Town Meeting. EK/FS. Approved 5-0 with one abstention.

Discussion:

Amherst Housing Authority Update: Donna Crabtree from the AHA discussed developments at her organization. They have a new website, www.amhersthousingauthority.org. She also provided figures on the AHA waiting lists:

- 142 entries in the waiting list for handicapped/elderly housing
- 267 for families (22 available)

Individual waiting lists include (some people may be on more than one list)

Location	Units	Waiting List
Watson Farms	15	71
Tamarack/99 Bridge	4	41
Main St	11	211 (may close list)

Approximately 20 applicants have come from shelters; two are now housed.

We will try to have some joint AHA/HP-FH meetings

CPA: Ms Kosmer reported that there will be about \$47,200 available for housing. Habitat for Humanity asked for and received \$35,000, which will not come out of that money.

Mortgage Vouchers: Mr Rosenblatt reported that there are still three vouchers available, one of which may be given out soon. The funds for operating the vouchers will soon be used up. Money allocated for vouchers that are not used would go back to the CPA pool.

Municipal Housing Trust: Ms Gregg expressed an opinion that Spring Town Meeting is not a good time to bring an article for the Housing Trust. Town Meeting will be too busy working on the budgets. There are still outstanding questions on liability and what the composition of the board should be. The committee voted to postpone (see Actions).

Olympia Drive: The committee discussed the composition of the housing at Olympia Drive given the current housing market. It is interested in the possibility of using some sort of rent-to-own program.

Tasks:

RR: Investigate feasibility of rent-to-own.

Next meeting:

April 9, 2009 at 9am, First Floor Mtg Room

Adjournment

Voted unanimously to adjourn at 11:10am. EK/CT

Submitted By

Chris Hoffmann